

Dear SIC Members and Friends:

Welcome to Volume 2, Issue 1 of “SIC Clips and Quips” – providing the latest news for School Improvement Council members and others interested in public education!

- **SIC “Basics” Trainings** are going on statewide. Visit the SIC Training page at <http://sic.sc.gov/trainingandresources/sictraining.htm> to view all training dates. Contact your SIC District Contact (see our website at <http://sic.sc.gov/sicdistrictcontacts.htm>) for more information about training in your district.
- Need help implementing your SIC goals? Need new ideas? Need some additional professional help with a perplexing issue in your school? Check out **SC-SIC’s Training and Resources Clearinghouse** - an exciting new resource for local School Improvement Councils designed to assist in finding training, brochures, DVDs and more from a variety of state agencies and nonprofit organizations. Visit the SC-SIC website at <http://sic.sc.gov/trainingandresources/> to find the help you need. Don’t see your topic listed? Contact us and we will try to find what you’re looking for. And check back often – this is a new and growing service provided for you by SC-SIC and new listings will be coming!
- **The SIC Membership reporting deadline is November 15.** School SIC elections should have been completed by October 15. November 15 is the deadline for all schools to report membership information for each SIC to the SC-SIC Member Network. Need help? Visit <http://sic.sc.gov/scsicismembernetwork/> for more information.
- Level One applications for the **Dick and Tunky Riley School Improvement Award** are due by 5 PM on November 23, 2009. Applying for this award is easy! Visit <http://sic.sc.gov/awardsandrecognitions/> for more information. Last year’s Riley Award went to **Morningside Middle School – North Charleston (Charleston County Schools)**; Honorable Mention winners included:
 - The Children’s School at Sylvia Circle – Rock Hill (Rock Hill Schools)
 - Hunt Meadows Elementary School – Easley (Anderson School District One)
 - Mauldin High School – Mauldin (Greenville County Schools)
 - Round Top Elementary School – Blythewood (Richland School District 2)
- Save the Date: **Legislative Advocacy Day is February 23, 2009** co-sponsored by the SC School Improvement Council, American Association of University Women and the League of Women Voters. Details will be announced soon.
- The SC-SIC Board of Trustees has welcomed three new members: community leader **Rev. Joseph A. Darby, Jr.** of Charleston; educator **Georgia A. Lash** of Simpsonville; and long-time school volunteer **Michael L. Guarino** of Mauldin. The Board of Trustees, composed of 21 individuals from various walks of life representing all corners of our state, serves as an advisory body to the SC-SIC much like local SICs serve their schools. We are very fortunate to have these three new members join our current Board members in their commitment to supporting civic engagement for quality public education in South Carolina.
- Palmetto Horizon Foundation sponsors the **SC Conference of Local Education Foundation Conference** on November 4 at the SC Department of Archives and History in Columbia. If your school or district has an education foundation or you are *thinking* about starting one, this conference has a track just for you. Visit the SC-SIC homepage at <http://sic.sc.gov> for more information and to register. Fee is \$35 per person; \$100 for three people.

- **Funding for SC-SIC** has been drastically cut during our state and national budget crisis. SC-SIC is NOT a paid membership association and the office has historically been supported almost entirely through state funding mechanisms. But we must now become more entrepreneurial in order to continue to provide you with comprehensive, quality services. SC-SIC is seeking grant funds and has expanded collaborations with other agencies and organizations to expand our capacity to assist you. In addition we can now accept tax deductible donations. **You can demonstrate your commitment to parent and community involvement in our public schools with a tax deductible contribution to SC-SIC.** Visit <http://sic.sc.gov/donateetoscsic.htm> to donate online or send a check to:

**University Development
c/o Gift Processing
1600 Hampton Street, 7th Floor
Columbia, SC 29208**

Please indicate that you wish for the funds to be directed toward SC-SIC.

- Have you signed the **petition to put High Quality Education on the ballot in 2010?** The SC-SIC Board of Trustees has signed a resolution in support of the Goodbye Minimally Adequate campaign. Visit www.goodbyeminimallyadequate.com to sign the petition. Click on Statements of Support to see the SC-SIC resolution. Your SIC and/or school board may want to craft a similar document to voice your support. You will find important historical information on this site as well and teachers can use this material for classroom instruction. Students are eligible to sign the petition too!
- SC-SIC now has a **Facebook Fan page!** If you have a Facebook account, please become a Fan of SC School Improvement Council at <http://www.facebook.com/home.php?#/pages/Columbia-SC/SC-School-Improvement-Council/140752415812?ref=ts>. Follow us on **Twitter** as well! Don't know much about Facebook or Twitter? Contact Claudia Wolverton at wolverto@mailbox.sc.edu for help.

I hope you find this information useful. *CLIPS & QUIPS* is sent to all SIC members who share their email addresses with us. Please print out and share this information with other SIC members who have not received it. We are here to help you; please contact us any time!

Cassie

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